COMPLIANCE

WASTE CLASSIFICATION FLOWCHARTS FOR CONTAMINATED SOIL

LEAD ACTIVITY
Naval Air Station (NAS) North Island

STATUS
Completed

MISSION
Provide guidance on the classification of contaminated soil so that decisions can be made on its reuse on site or disposal off site

DESCRIPTION
NAS North Island developed flowcharts to guide project managers in the classification of soil that is known or suspected to be contaminated so that decisions can be made on its reuse or disposal. Some of the information in these flowcharts is specific to San Diego County, such as the petroleum hydrocarbon-contaminated soil sampling requirements in the Site Assessment and Mitigation (SAM) Manual. These flowcharts are not intended to replace the regulations, but to help personnel make practical decisions regarding classification of waste as Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) hazardous waste, non-RCRA (California only) hazardous waste, or non-hazardous waste.

To assist environmental managers, sections of the laws and regulations discussed in the flowcharts are included for reference, and an introduction to the classification, reuse, and disposal of contaminated soil is provided. Sampling and analytical requirements and analytical data interpretation for classification of soil contaminated with petroleum hydrocarbon products generated from underground storage tank (UST) or above-ground storage tank (AST) releases are also described, along with requirements and recommendations for classification of soil contaminated with nonpetroleum hydrocarbon products, such as chlorinated solvents, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), pesticides, heavy metals, and unknown contaminants.

The flowcharts were produced for about $8,400. The average treatment of an UST generates contaminated soil on the order of 1,000 tons. Disposal at a Class I hazardous waste landfill costs approximately $150 per ton. If a better understanding of the regulations results in the proper disposal of this soil at a Class II (designated waste) landfill, the cost per ton will be cut in half. Class III (municipal) disposal costs only $40 a ton, for a disposal cost savings of approximately $11,000. The flowcharts can also facilitate the identification of proper on-site reuse options which could result in prevention of truck traffic through the neighboring city of Coronado.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Tetra Tech EM Inc. (formerly PRC Environmental Management, Inc.) Waste Classification for Contaminated Soil. March 3, 1995.

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